11-14-01



"Home at last"

see page 3



"Homecoming spirit"

see page 4

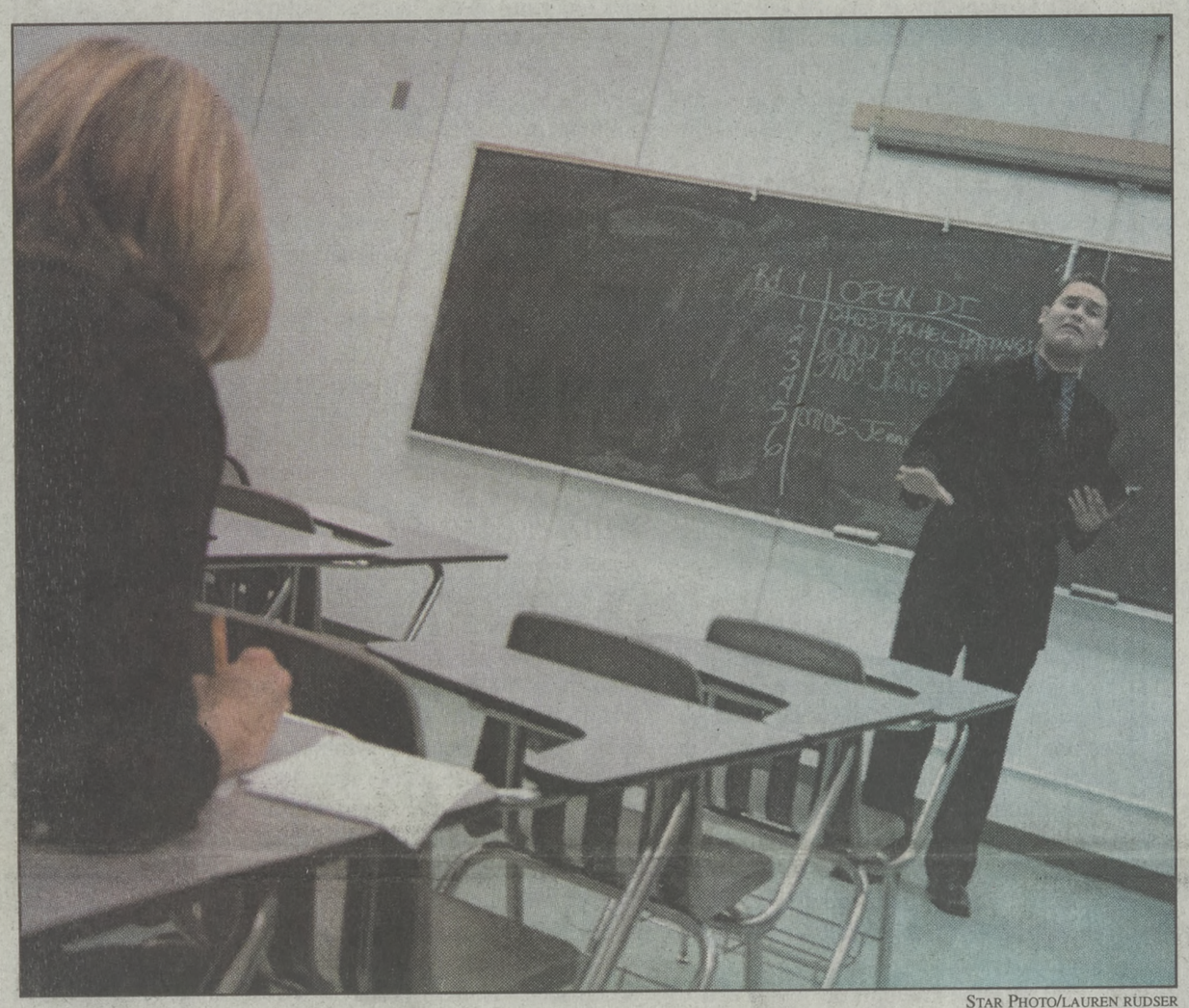


"Invaded territory "

see page 12

The Valley Star

VOLUME 56, ISSUE NO.7 | NOVEMBER 14, 2001 | LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE



STAR PHOTO/LAUREN RUDSER

Jaime Vazquez lets it all out while the judge watches during his dramatic interpretation speech in the preliminary round of the forensic tournament at California State University, Northridge.

Speech Team Tackles Event

BY LAUREN RUDSER
STAR REPORTER

Valley College's Forensic speech team competed in the Epicenter Classic event Nov. 10 sponsored by CSUN's speech department. More than 500 competitors and coaches gathered from community colleges and universities from all over the Southwestern United States. Valley's team placed seven times in the competition.

The Forensic Speech class is taught like any other class on campus, but it extends outside of the classroom. Students compete in tournaments 10 to 15 times per year. The Epicenter Classics lead to the national finals, which will be held in Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas during Spring Break 2002.

There are three types of competitions a school can enter: debate, on the spot speech writing and forensics. Forensic competition can be sub-divided to include informative, persuasive and after-dinner speeches. The after-dinner speech's goal is to make a serious point using humor. Valley's team placed in each of the three categories

Speeches are prewritten and memorized for competition. Each speech runs between 8-10 minutes. Contestants are docked points for either running under or over the specified time limit.

Josh Haley, one of the team's senior members brought home a first place trophy from the informative speech category, a second place trophy from the persuasive speech category and was a finalist with his dinner speech. Reana Irving, another senior member of the team was a finalist in the informative speech category.

See 'FORENSICS' on p. 10

Popular Music Teacher Dies

BY OLIVER CACANANTA
STAR REPORTER

Dan Stehman, who taught music at Valley College for 30 years, recently died of an apparent heart attack.

He was 63.

A lifelong resident of Hermosa Beach, Stehman attended local schools before entering Pomona College on scholarship. He later received his bachelor's degree from UCLA, and as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow, his master's and doctorate in musicology from USC.

Stehman devoted much of his life to music as a pianist, composer, author and, most of all, as a teacher.

"Dan has been an extraordinary support and mentor to the music majors, spending extra time reviewing coursework and guiding their special projects." wrote Diane Wintrob, the music department chair, in a statement she issued to the college. "He was highly respected by his colleagues and much admired and loved by his students."

Stehman began his tenure at Valley in 1968 as an instructional assistant. In 1973 he joined the faculty full time, teaching music history and theory as well as piano and performance workshops.

"He was one of the best teachers I've ever had," said Jason Matthew, a music major and Valley graduate.

"He broke down the piano so students could understand it. He was very patient," said Carlos Salazar, a Latin American studies major. "Always smiled at you. He was a really nice guy."



COURTESY OF MARTIN LOYOTA

Dr. Dan Stehman recently died. He taught music at Valley College for 30 years.

Outside of his teaching duties, Stehman was a vigorous scholar and musician.

He composed six symphonies and a number of piano, violin and guitar concertos and ensembles. Many of these premiered at Valley.

Stehman was also a recognized biographer of Roy Harris, penning three books on the American composer, and serving as a consultant on the Roy Harris Collection at California State University in Los Angeles. In addition, he wrote articles for music publications and recording album notes.

At Valley, he initiated the music department's website and organized their annual Original Composition Workshop. This gives students the opportunity to have

See 'STEHMAN' on p. 9

Reception Honors Valley Students

BY LINDA TOPDJIAN
STAR REPORTER

Entering Monarch Hall, the décor of potted fichus trees, trimmed in glowing, twinkling lights set the mood that an exciting event was about to take place. The air was filled with the mellow sounds of the George Freese Trio, which played jazz music in the background as the students, faculty, and family members strolled into the 2001 Dean's Reception.

As the 300 seats filled to capacity, the energy and excitement could be felt as anxious, proud guests awaited the program's beginning. Terlin Ranasinghe, mother of Lasanthi Ranasinghe said, "I am so proud of my daughter, Lasanthi, she

See 'RECEPTION' on p. 10



STAR PHOTO/LAUREN RUDSER

Valley College President Tyree Wieder and special guest speaker Paul J. Orfalea congradulate Becky Berger for her efforts that placed her on the President's list during the Dean's Reception.

Anthrax Scare Touches Local Residents

BY MICHELLE FOGEL
STAR REPORTER

The recent anthrax scares have created a panic stretching from the nation's capitol all the way to our own backyard in sunny Southern California. If you did not know already, anthrax has been around for years, mainly on our farms and even in other parts of the world. Anthrax has now become a household word since September and the recent terrorist attacks.

"One of my brothers works for one of the postal service facilities in Washington," says Anne Marie, a makeup artist at the Burbank Studios. "I don't know what I am going to do since each Christmas I go to visit my brother, and with all the news about anthrax has got my nerves all over the place."

Other residents in the community share similar views concerning the recent anthrax reports and some are concerned that California could be next. How many

See 'ANTHRAX' on p. 9

Smoking Program Lacks Student Support

BY MARITZA MOLINA
STAR REPORTER

On club day at Valley College, when students approach one of the tables labeled T.I.P.S. (Tobacco Intervention Program for Students), instead of being sold a snack, they are handed a survey to fill out.

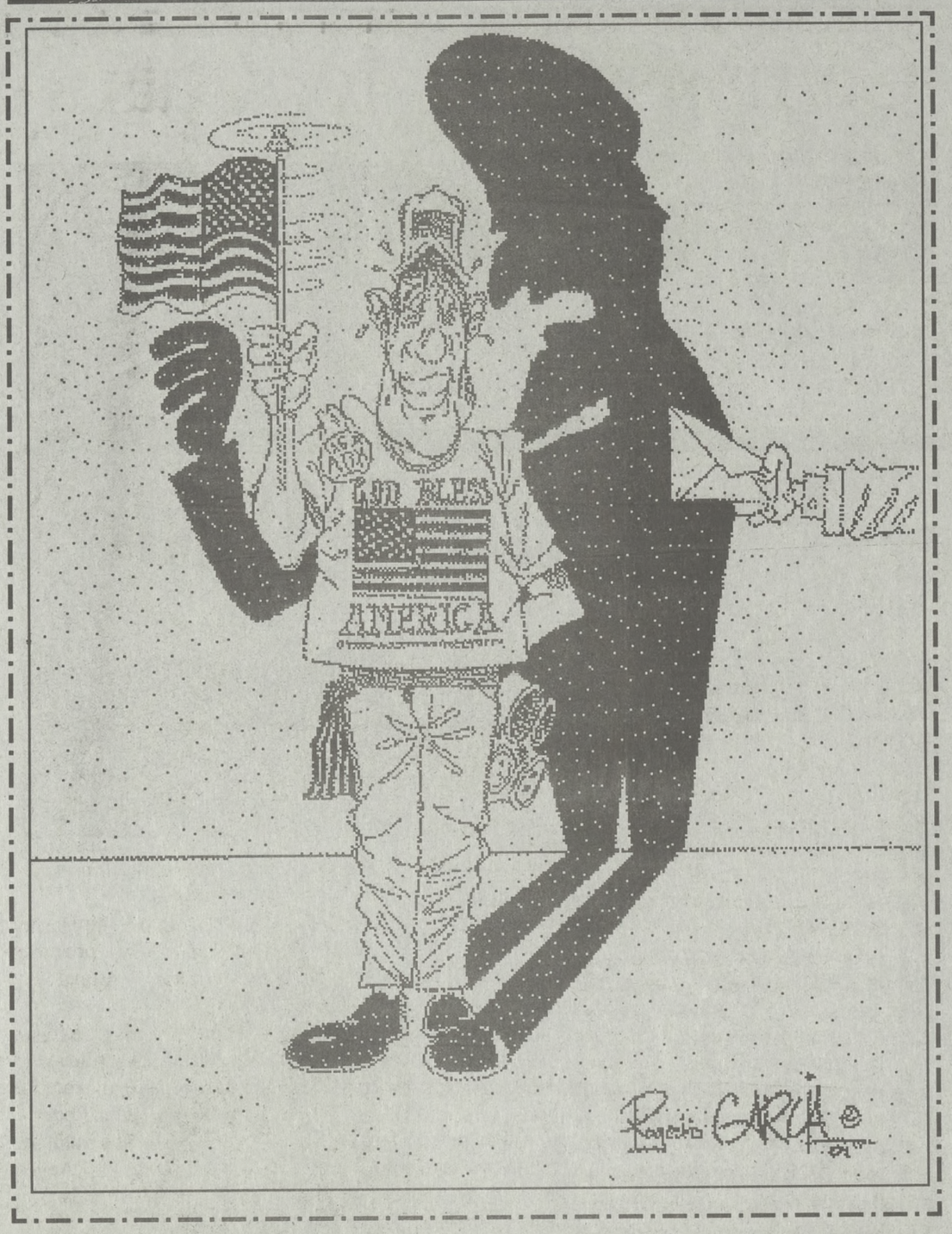
"When we do club day, we give them to students, faculty and even some maintenance (personnel) who have to pick up the cigarette butts," said Terre Hampel, coordinator of the county-funded program.

The program's main goal, according to Hampel who is a Valley College alumna, is to "build a support-based network of students, faculty and administration to look at the current [non-smoking] policy."

Through the 150 surveys they have administered so far, they have found that "most students prefer to be away from

See 'SMOKING' on p. 9

Opinion



editorial

Blind Optimism: A Sad Reality

BY ROGELIO GARCIA
STAR REPORTER

A recent Newsweek poll found that Americans are optimistic about the future of the nation after the Sept. 11 attack. This is all well and good to read, however, it is evident that we are not as confident with ourselves as we are being led to believe. Let us keep in mind that Americans are in a state of "blind optimism." That is the public's mentality is one of unwavering patriotism. With that in mind, the people who were polled gave what they believed was the "right" answer to give and right now the right answer is to remain optimistic.

According to the Newsweek poll, 80 percent of Americans are satisfied with the way the government has handled the anthrax threat and only 12 percent are skeptical. These numbers are the result of defiant citizens who refuse to admit, in public, their real feelings about the situation. The reality is that most of us do in fact feel vulnerable. The only thing keeping us from completely falling apart is our optimism. We refuse to allow the terrorists to destroy our already bruised spirits.

"This 'blind optimism' is so bad that a recent gallup poll couldn't even get enough people to admit that we were heading into a recession"

As a result, according to the poll, 71 percent say they are optimistic about the country's economy. The fact is that the economy is heading into a deep recession with thousands of people cashing in their stocks and hiding their money in a safe place. This "blind optimism" is so bad that a recent Gallup poll couldn't even get enough people to admit that we were heading into a recession.

The same Gallup poll found that 67 percent of Americans are confident in the method in which the federal, state and local governments are prepared to handle a biological terrorist attack. I doubt very much that most of the U.S. feels this confidant, when you consider the amount of people purchasing gas masks. Even more disturbing is the preparedness of the hospitals in relation to anthrax. With continuous reporting on the "anthrax outbreak," a large percentage of Americans are flooding hospital emergency rooms claiming to be infected. Almost all are false alarms. Still, we maintain that we are confident.

During a recent television interview, Tommy G. Thomson, secretary of health and human services, tried to reassure Americans by saying: "We are very, very efficient, and we will be able to respond very effectively. And that's why American's should feel secure." I can't speak for the rest of the country, but that response does not make me feel confident. There is no evidence that can possibly lead us to believe that the U.S. is a-okay.

The reality of the situation is that America and its citizens are in denial, plain and simple. The goal of the terrorists was to destroy our sense of security. By destroying the country's symbols of capitalism and defense, they succeeded. And so it's my opinion that Americans are now experiencing one of the symptoms of "death and dying." The first symptom is that of grieving, which we have already done. The next one is where we are now, and that is denial. The final stage is that of acceptance. Look, I'll start, " We are in trouble." Hey, that was easy.

Tuesday's unfortunate

Americans seemingly fail to understand that their rights are not absolute and that they bear no responsibility for preserving and retaining their rights. California's state constitution, which is premised on the United States Constitution, states "All people are by nature free and independent and inalienable rights. Among these are enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety, happiness, and privacy."[Article I Section 1]. This is one of the most wonderful rights that we enjoy, seemingly forgetting that not everyone in the world enjoys.

Here at Valley College there are those Americans who feel they have an inalienable right to express themselves by scribbling on campus property. There are gang tags written with spray paint, permanent markers and sharp instruments. California's state constitution Article I Section 2 states, in part, "Every person may freely speak, write and publish his or her sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of this right. A law may not restrain or abridge liberty of speech or press…." This does not mean it's okay to tag other people's property. There has long been a struggle to figure out the best solution to the problem of preventing the destruction of property by taggers.

The LAPD has a "Tagger Task Force," and its purpose is to locate victims of tagging, complete crime reports and photograph the "tag." The investigations are entered into a computer database at Operations Valley Bureau and are used for comparisons and identifying suspects. Leading this task force is Officer Vic Monroe, who can be reached at (818) 756-8542.

Valley campus police, which the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department oversees, is 100 percent in favor of the Tagger Task Force, and sergeant with the sheriff's department stated "the only way

See **'BATHROOM UPDATE'** on p. 10

The ValleyStar

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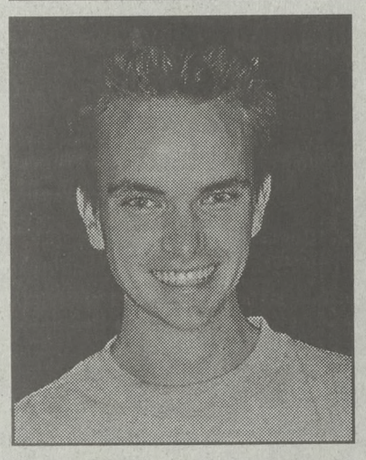
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CampusView

How have the threats of biological warfare affected your sense of safety?

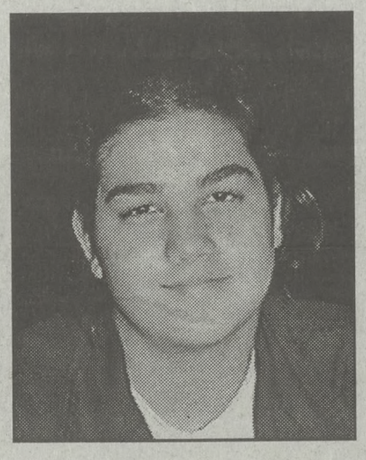
BY MARCY PETRIQUE
STAR REPORTER

STAR PHOTOS/MARCY PETRIQUE



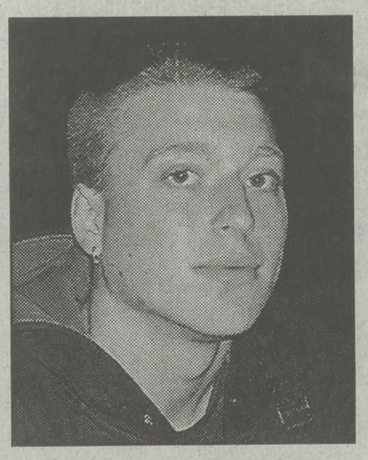
"I'm definitely more precautionary about stuff that's going on around me related to the news, but it doesn't change my way of life. I don't go out in fear of having someone spray [who] only knows what into the air."

Erik Kautz
Business Marketing



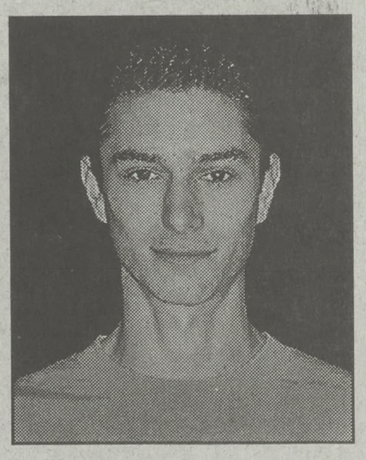
"They really haven't... I don't take any precautions or anything like that."

Veronica Perez
Undeclared



"Not to a great extent. I worry about it but it doesn't keep me up at night. I feel like I'm pretty safe. I don't think my family and I are going to be a target for that kind of thing. It's more high profile."

Brian Levin
Law



"I look for signs of something to be wrong and other than that, really nothing. I just sort of look out for it."

Justin Hirsehberg
Undeclared

Write a letter to the editor
StareditorsLAVC@hotmail.com
Please include your name and telephone number
Letter may be edited. Deadline: Friday 4:30 p.m.

The Valley Star would like to inform our readers of our new production schedule. New issues will come out Nov. 14, and Dec. 12

Valley Life

Campus Scene

■ **Career/Transfer Center**
Do you have questions about your major, career, or the transfer process? Visit the Career/Transfer Center in Administration 126 or call (818) 947-2646 on **Mon. between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m., Wed. and Thur. between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., and Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Take advantage of resources offered including college applications, transfer workshops, online college catalogs, internet access, career planning courses and much more.

■ **Student Health Center**
Mon.- Fri. opened 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wed., 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

■ **Volunteering Opportunities**
Service Learning is joining forces with local community agencies to support the nation during this time of crisis by asking students to volunteer their time to help in the relief efforts. To volunteer your time and give back to the community, call Joyce Romero or Rick Brossman in the Counseling Office at (818) 947-2644

■ **STOMP at Valley College**
The Psychology Dept. is hosting a once in a lifetime event. STOMP, the internationally acclaimed musical group will be performing in the Music Recital Hall on **Nov. 15th, 5:50 p.m.**

■ **Israel Briefing**
An Israel Briefing: The latest events. Featuring Meirav Eilon Shahar, Consul for Communications & Public Affairs, Consulate General of Israel. **Thurs. Nov. 15, 6:45 p.m.- 8 p.m.** at Hillel at Pierce & Valley Colleges, 19720 Ventura Blvd. Suite #G, Woodland Hills. For more information call (818) 887-5901

■ **Star Party**
Astronomy Group is holding their monthly Star Party on **Nov. 17.** Meet in the LAVC parking lot at **8 p.m.** Remember to bring snacks something warm to drink, it will get cold so bring a coat. For more information call (818) 947-2335

■ **LAVC Philharmonic Choir**
Jennifer Kelly, Conductor. **Sun., Nov. 18, 7 p.m.** Main Stage.

■ **Kadima String Quartet**
Thurs. Nov 29, 11:30 a.m. Music Recital Hall.

Campus Cares for Cats

BY RICHARD ADES
STAR REPORTER

Campuses all over the United States have feral cat populations that start with stray and abandoned cats. These cats form colonies, usually around a food source, which they protect from other cats.

"At Valley College we began a program almost two years ago," said Ann Harootyan, who works at the college's writing laboratory and with Actors & Others for Animals.

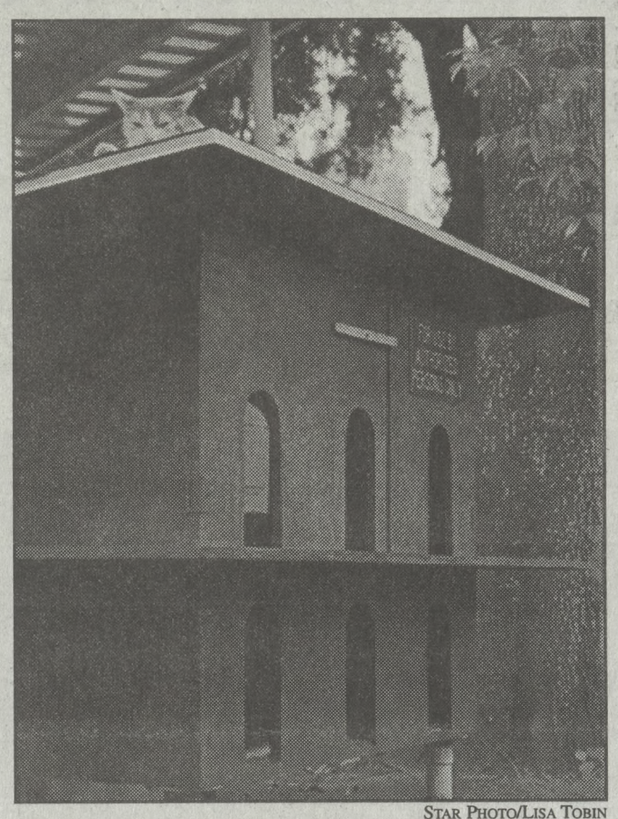
Valley's program is most visible by its four feeding stations (cat apartments). They are small green homes with white roofs and a sign in front that reads, "For use by authorized persons only." The feeding stations can be found by the behavioral science building, the foreign language building, the business journalism building and near the track and field.

The program controls the cat population by limiting the amount of food placed in the apartments and discourages students from feeding the cats. Volunteers from Actors and Others feed and care for the cats.

Another basic function of caring for the cats is the trap-neuter-return program. The program has been a "tremendous success," according to campus officials.

"Unfortunately, some people still drop off kittens they no longer want," Harootyan said. "We area always on the watch for this."

Many Valley students are surprised that the college cares for cats, but said they support the program. One student said the cats are cool because they keep help eliminate the rodent and bug populations.



STAR PHOTO/LISA TOBIN
One of our many feline friends seems to be taking an afternoon nap at one of the houses built on campus especially for them.

Part-time student, Allen Eimani, also likes the program.

"I love animals and it sounds like a good program," he said.

The program seeks to control the cat population by limiting food with the four feeding stations. There have been campus cats hit by cars and some have probably been victims of animal cruelty.

Animal cruelty is a felony offense and college administrators are prepared to prosecute under California Penal Code.

Anyone who would like to volunteer can call Actors and Others for Animals.

Fire Academy Partnership

BY LISA TOBIN
STAR REPORTER

For seven weeks, the "F.I.R.E." Academy meets at Valley College. F.I.R.E. stands for fire instruction, recruitment, and education.

The F.I.R.E. School to Career Academy is a partnership between the LA City Fire Department, Valley College, and five San Fernando Valley high schools including Grant, Van Nuys, Monroe and Pacoima.

The purpose of the academy is to strengthen the connection between high school students, Valley College, and a high-paying career in firefighting. Tech Prep STC Director John C. Burke provides coordination with the high schools and continuous on-site supervision of the entire program.

High school students, ninth and 10th graders specifically, meet for seven Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. These students receive intensive instruction in firefighting skills provided by experienced Los Angeles city firefighters. City firefighter Ralph Rodriguez developed the curriculum, recruited the fire training staff, and conducts the training program. The education for this program begins in the classroom. Rodriguez said that the first thing to be instilled in these students is discipline, military discipline to be exact, which he takes right from the Marine Corps handbook. Students are taught the fire department evolutions, everything students need to know when coming into the fire department. Students take a test every week.

With the instruction, the students learn in the classroom and the knowledge of the tools and equipment, they are then ready to participate using the actual material. They learn procedures such as marching, working with hoses, safely raising ladders to buildings, learning to tie knots – 15 to be exact – working on their strength by hitting a hammer, as if they were chopping on a roof, and other valuable skills.

These students are then broken into companies. They compete during the sixth week and they graduate in the seventh week. Throughout this program, teamwork is strictly enforced.

To date, 239 high school students have received hands-on instruction and job skills. They also earned certificates of completion from Los Angeles City Fire Department.



STAR PHOTO/LISA TOBIN
These high school student is are part of the F.I.R.E. Academy program taught here at Valley College. F.I.R.E. stands for fire, instruction, recruitment, and education.

Music Unifies Youth

BY SAMANTHA KUPPIG
STAR REPORTER



STAR PHOTO/SAMANTHA KUPPIG
Uniting Souls DJ Jordan performs a set at Studio 56 Nov. 10 for a crowded house while Jason Henry and Scott Elgin stand by in support.

Synchronization. A Unification of souls. A blending of music that makes you move.

That's what Scott Elgin and Jordan Strong, music students at Valley College do through house music.

"Going to house clubs is supposed to make you feel like you're casually hanging out with your closest friends at home, when in fact, you're in a venue with sometimes thousands of strangers," Elgin said.

Uniting Souls, the collaboration of djs and artists gather to spread love through their musical events and occasionally raise money for charity. Elgin and Strong of Uniting Souls Los Angeles, throw a party the goal is to create an ambiance of peace.

"House music is about positivity and community," Strong said.

Uniting Souls started in San Francisco more than five years ago by a group of artists that were dedicated to making the world a better place through the bumping, funky beats of house music. Since then the group has spread to Los Angeles and Seattle, boasting more than thirty members.

"We started out as a group of friends and now we're turning into a company," Strong said.

Unification through art and music is the theme of each event. They concentrated on large-scale parties in the past, then moved to smaller clubs and are now redirecting their energies into big parties and fundraisers. Members of Uniting Souls have raised money for last February's earthquakes in India and Central America and more recently, for the NYFD Crisis Fund and the Red Cross.

Elgin and Strong enrolled in classes this semester to learn vital information about running the business of Uniting Souls. They are currently taking Music as a Business and Elementary Piano.

"Everyday I apply something new I've learned to Uniting Souls," Elgin said. "We learn about copyright laws, trademarks, management and producing."

Strong's desire to learn piano was driven by the knowledge that "a lot of the basics of house music and writing music in general is keyboard based."

Strong and Elgin's concentration on learning piano has been interrupted by the death of their professor, Dr. Dan Stehman.

"He was a great teacher and it's weird to think that he's just not going to be around anymore," Strong said. "Our hearts go out to his family."

House music encompasses many styles of music from jazz and disco to funk and classical as backbeats.

"An ambiance is created with melodic phrases and a backbeat similar to the rhythm of your heart," Elgin said.

Uniting Souls is hosting a 21 and over event called Sound Textures Nov.24 at the Voodoo Lounge. Jason Bentley of KCRW will be opening for Miguel Migs, San Francisco producer from Naked Music, and DJ Joaquinn Garcia of Uniting Souls Seattle along with live art by Jason Henry and other local artist exhibits. Tickets on sale now at Global Grooves, Wax Records and online at groovetickets.com.

Groove to the funky beats as your heart syncs up with the bass. Support local music and your fellow students.

Valley Life

Homecoming Celebration

BY SAMANTHA KUPPIG
STAR REPORTER

Homecoming this year fell on President Tyree Wieder's birthday. Winners of the Homecoming Court were as follows:

Francesca "Frankie" Pagnotta , ASU Vice President, was named queen.

Gabriel Avila was named King.

There was a tie for princess between student trustee Maria Grunwald and Danielle Dejean. Both currently hold the title of princess.

Chi Yung Kun was named prince.

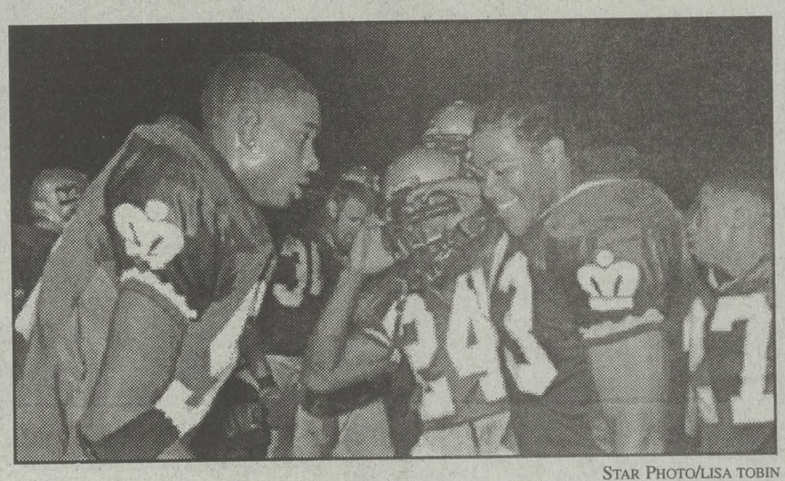
Although the Valley cheerleaders boasted their school spirit during the game Nov.3 and the parade, our team lost.



STAR PHOTO/ JORGE GALLEGOS

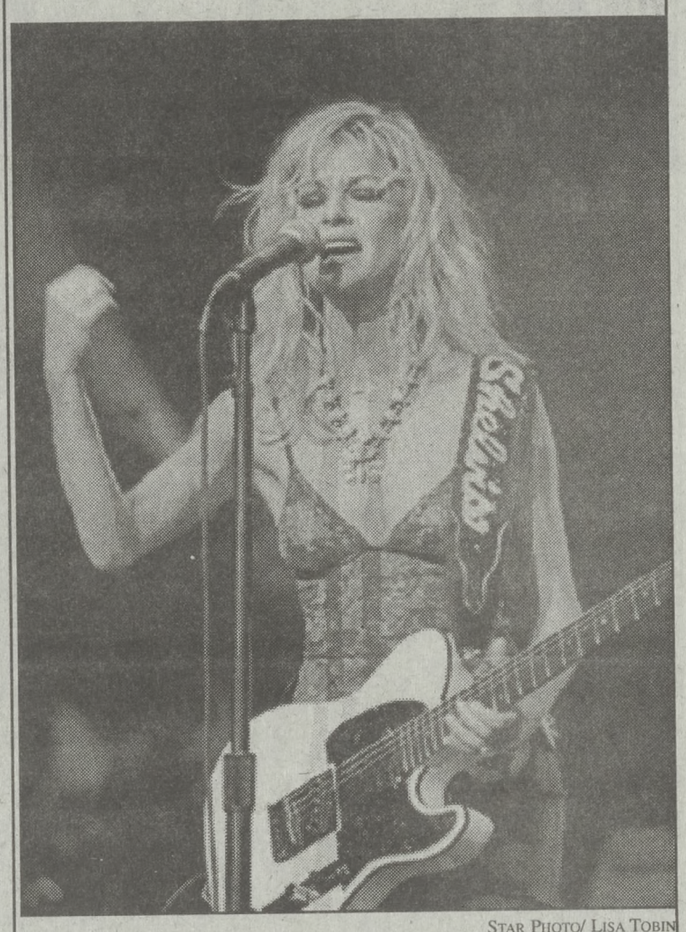


STAR PHOTO/JORGE GALLEGOS



STAR PHOTO/LISA TOBIN

A Sounds Eclectic Evening



STAR PHOTO/ LISA TOBIN

Grammy Award winner Shelby Lynne was a hit at "Sound Electic Evening" at the Wiltern Theatre. This event was produced by radio station KCRW.

BY LISA TOBIN
STAR REPORTER

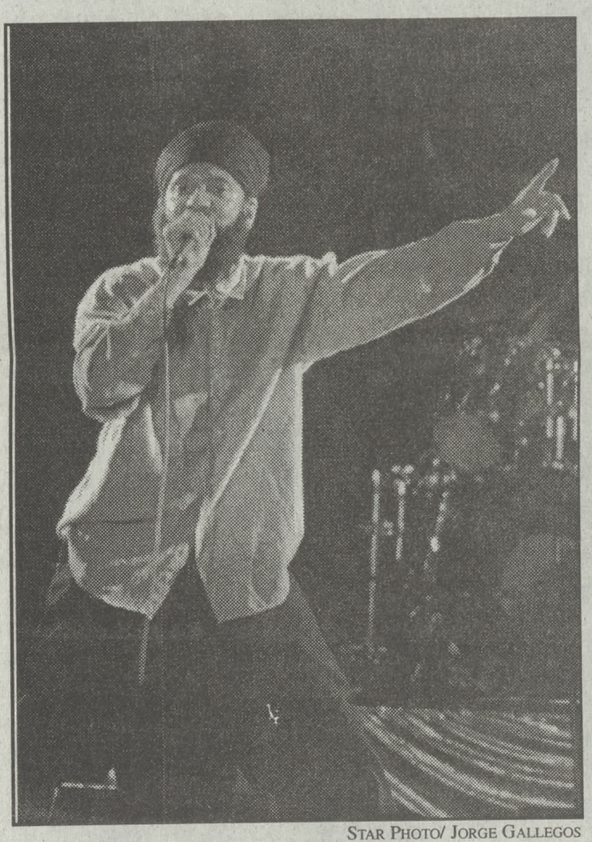
KCRW, 89.9F.M. & K.C.R.W. com is a leading public radio station in Santa Monica, This station largest audience is the youngest of any other in the country: 28-29 year olds.

K.C.R.W. fills a wide spectrum of interests from news, t o programs dealing with culture, art, theatre, and dance. They. offers programs that tell stories and give performances. There is a program devoted to good food.

However, what were really here to talk about is the music. In my opinion K.C. R. W. has great music. In the mornings they have eclectic music, including progressive pop, international, jazz and classical. They have in-studio interviews and live performances.

At night they have a mixture of urban rhythm and soul.

On November 9, K.C.R.W. presented its first ever-produced concert, entitled " A SOUNDS ECLECTIC EVENING" at the Wiltern theatre. These artists included: SPARKLEHORSE, BADLY DRAWN BOY, PETE YORN, ELLIOTT SMITH, Grammy winner SHELBY LYNNE, and OZOMATLI. All these artists received their first significant radio airplay on K.C.R.W. The proceeds will go towards broadcast operations.



STAR PHOTO/ JORGE GALLEGOS

Gran presentacion de Fidel Nadal como soloista la noche del miercoles 7 de noveimbre en el Key Club de Los Angeles.

Fidel, Para La Gente Que Esta Presente

BY JORGE GALLEGOS
STAR REPORTER

Con pie firme Fidel Nadal se presentó en una noche de reggae ahora como solista despues de haber formado parte de las bandas "Todos Tus Muertos" y "Lumumba" uniendo su voz con la de Pablito "Dronkit Master" formando un dueto que parecía inseparable hasta que hubo diferencias de opiniones, musicales y al tener nuevos proyectos en mente decidieron separarse.

Fidel también tuvo participación con la banda "Mano Negra" en el disco "Casa Babylon" grabado en un viaje de"Mano Negra" por sudamerica, así como también tuvo parte en el tributo que se le hizo al popular grupo mexicano "Los Tigres Del Norte" al grabar la cancion "La Puerta Negra".

La tocada se llevo a cabo el pasado miércoles 7 de noviembre en el Key Club de Los Angeles situado en el Sunset Strip. Noche en la que también se presentaron las bandas angelinas "East L.A. Sabor Factory" y :Las 15 Letras".

Con un muy claro sentimiento rastafari de principio a fin, Fidel canto, bailo, y conpartio su sentimiento rasta con su fiel público que fue a verlo a pesar de la poca promoción que tuvo la tocada.

Después de haber tocado su nuevo repertorio y algunas canciones de sus anteriores bandas como "En la jungla", "La foto de Selassie I"y " Andate", Fidel demostro que es uno de los cantantes que tienen el carisma que se necesita para atraer gente.

Si no tuvieron la oportunidad de ver a Fidel Nadal, él se presenta anualmente en L.A. en diferentes centros nocturnos.

Greenpeace Solar Truck "Rolling Sunlight" to Hit Valley College Campus

BY SAMANTHA KUPPIG
STAR REPORTER

Solar powered popcorn, pizza, and solar music is on the agenda as a prelude to a press conference and Board of Trustees meeting. Come see "Rolling Sunlight" today in Monarch Square at 2 p.m.

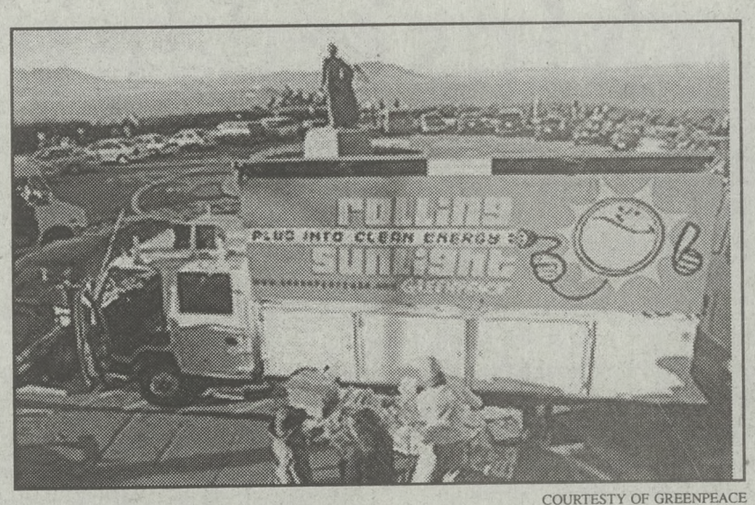
The international environmental organization Greenpeace will bring its solar truck "Rolling Sunlight" to Valley College. The truck features 256 square feet of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and supplies enough energy to power three energy efficient homes.

Known affectionately as "Su", Rolling Sunlight comes to Los Angeles for the November 14 meeting of the Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees on green building standards. Trustees are deciding on guidelines for spending the $1.245 billion that voters dedicated to the LACCD for renovations and new buildings through ballot measure Proposition A last spring.

Rolling Sunlight will serve as a clean energy backdrop for a pre-meeting press conference at 2:30 p.m. Environmentalists from Greenpeace, the Sierra Club, and the Coalition for Clean Air will call on the Board to require the highest in green building standards. Before the press conference, the Rolling Sunlight will blast sun-oriented music from its speakers and serve up popcorn and pizza - all powered by solar energy.

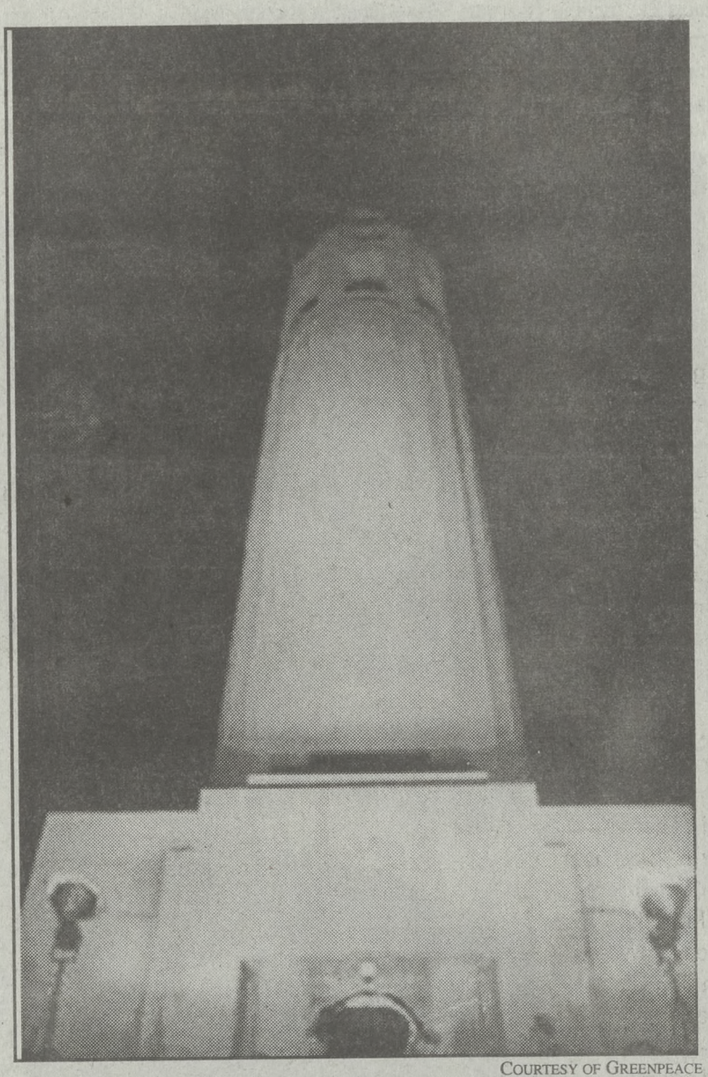
Greenpeace organizers have been working on campuses across the District to ensure that Trustees mandate that Proposition A renovations and new buildings are done in the most environmentally sound way possible, with a particular emphasis on a big purchase of solar power. Working with student volunteers, the organizers have gathered over 1,200 signatures in support of their campaign, as well as over 60 letters from faculty members.

Greenpeace believes that a significant investment in solar power could create economies of scale that will dramatically lower the price of solar energy around the globe. This is an essential step in the fight to clean up the air in Los Angeles, which recently surpassed Houston to once again become the city with the dirtiest air in America. A switch to solar power will also minimize the greenhouse gases that are plunging the planet into a global warming catastrophe. The Los Angeles area is particularly vulnerable to the extreme weather, sea level rise, wildfires, and species extinction that global warming brings.



COURTESY OF GREENPEACE

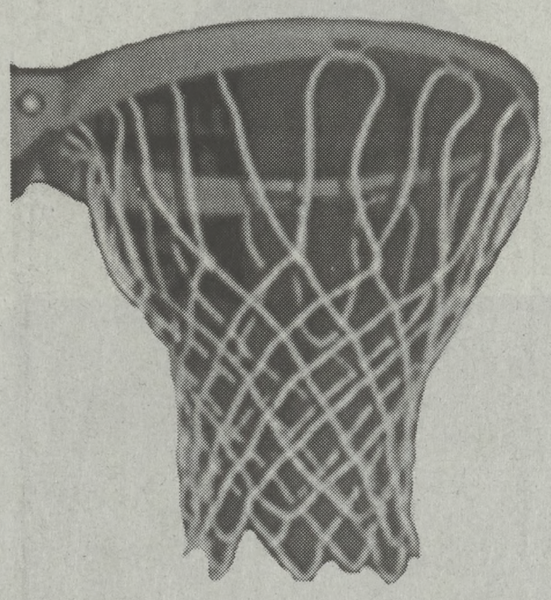
Rolling sunlight will be on campus today at Monarch Square as a backdrop to a press conference and board of trustees meeting where students will urge administration to use Prop. A money to adopt Green building standards.



COURTESY OF GREENPEACE

Coit tower is lit up by the solar power produced by Rolling Sunlight.

SportsExtra





A Chance to WSC Three-Peat

STAR PHOTO/SAM KUPPIG

BY LEVON DAVIS
STAR REPORTER

Another basketball season has been bestowed upon us here at Valley College. The men's team is coming off a 10-2 conference record and 23-11 overall record last season.

There are so many challenges and expectation for this year's team to live up to this year. Like the past six seasons they are trying to win 20 plus games and make a confident showing in the playoffs. The team's head coaching staff is the same make-up as last year. Head coach Doug Michelson is a 9-year veteran for the Monarchs, and the same goes for assistant coach Willie Jones. The other three coaches, Jay Werner, Shelton Boykin, and Jeff Berina will be in their third , fourth, and fifth year as Michelson's assistants.

This year's team is looking to be special group of players. "We have three very talented guards, so we will be able to go with two of them at a time." Michelson said. Rodney Billups, Alex Cabagnot, and,James Mitchell will be taking the point guard position this season. Billups is the brother of NBA player Chauncey Billups. "He was the one who got me interested in basketball," Billups said about his brother. The tallest of the three guards will be Cabagnot, a 6-foot freshman from Eagle Rock High School. The oldest point guard will be Mitchell who is a sophomore this year. A 5-9 stocky point guard from Ft. Worth Texas, Mitchell will be able to hold an example for the younger point guards.

The strategy that the Monarchs will stick this year is the inside and out game, making sure the ball goes to a postman before they put up the shot. That shouldn't be a hard task with two 6-9 postmen. Usually on a Junior College basketball team you won't find two guys that are over 6-7. Javier Dena is one of 6-9 postmen that will make a impact on this squad. Dena is athletic and has the skills of a shooting forward. He has only been playing basketball for four years; he got picked up after his volleyball coach thought he should pursue basketball. Dena will be able to make a name for himself once he puts on a few pounds and learns a little more about the game.

Each of these players will be led by the two team captains, Nate Wllson and Neverson White. "These two guys were here last year, now they are hungry for more," Michelson said. Wilson is one of the postmen that the Monarchs will be counting on this season. He is a 6 foot 6, 250-pound power forward from Detroit. White is the other team captain, the most versatile player on the team, and the only player on this team who can play four different positions. White can handle the ball and knows the fundamental of the game.

They are a team full of players who can play ball and have learned how to play together. They are motivated, hungry, and on the same page. Most of the players on this team are not from Los Angeles, or California for that matter. They only have four players from California and two from the Los Angeles area. The coaching staff does a solid job of recruiting and has set up a system to recruit guys from the Detroit area. All 15 players have been personally recruited, which helps the coaching staff know the background of each player. These groups of guys carry themselves well and are intelligent on and off the court. Coach Michelson has mandatory study sessions that players have to attend, no matter what their grade point average. Being a former player, Michelson knows that grades are important for the future and to move on to the next level.

This year will be another fun Monarchs basketball season. Look for the guys to make another run at the Final Four State Tournament. There is no reason, except for injury, these guys cannot make a solid chance of cutting the nets down at the end of the year.

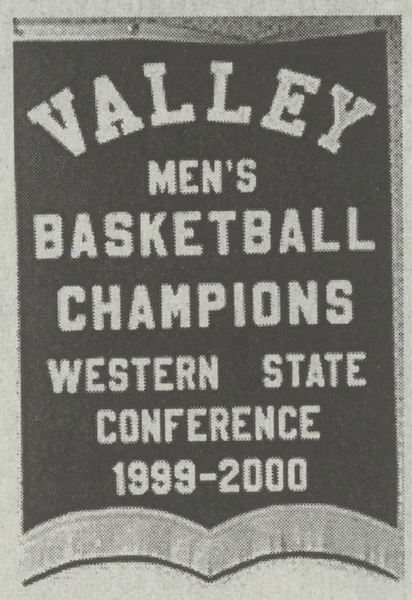
Hanging On To History

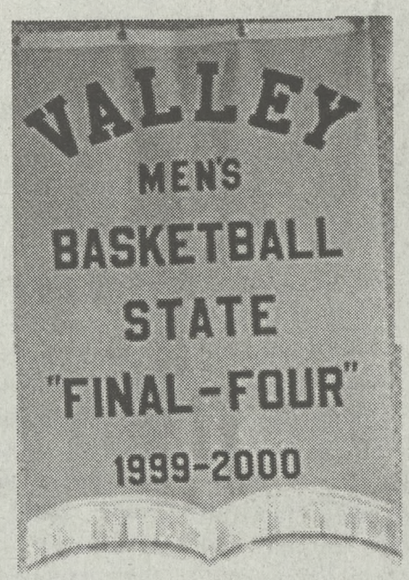




Conference Title

1989- 90
1991- 92
1996- 97
1999- 2000
2000- 01



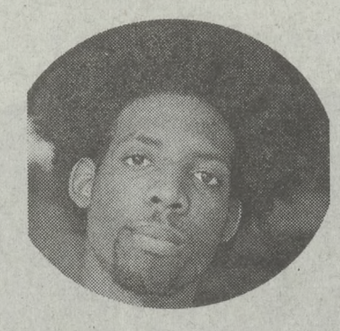


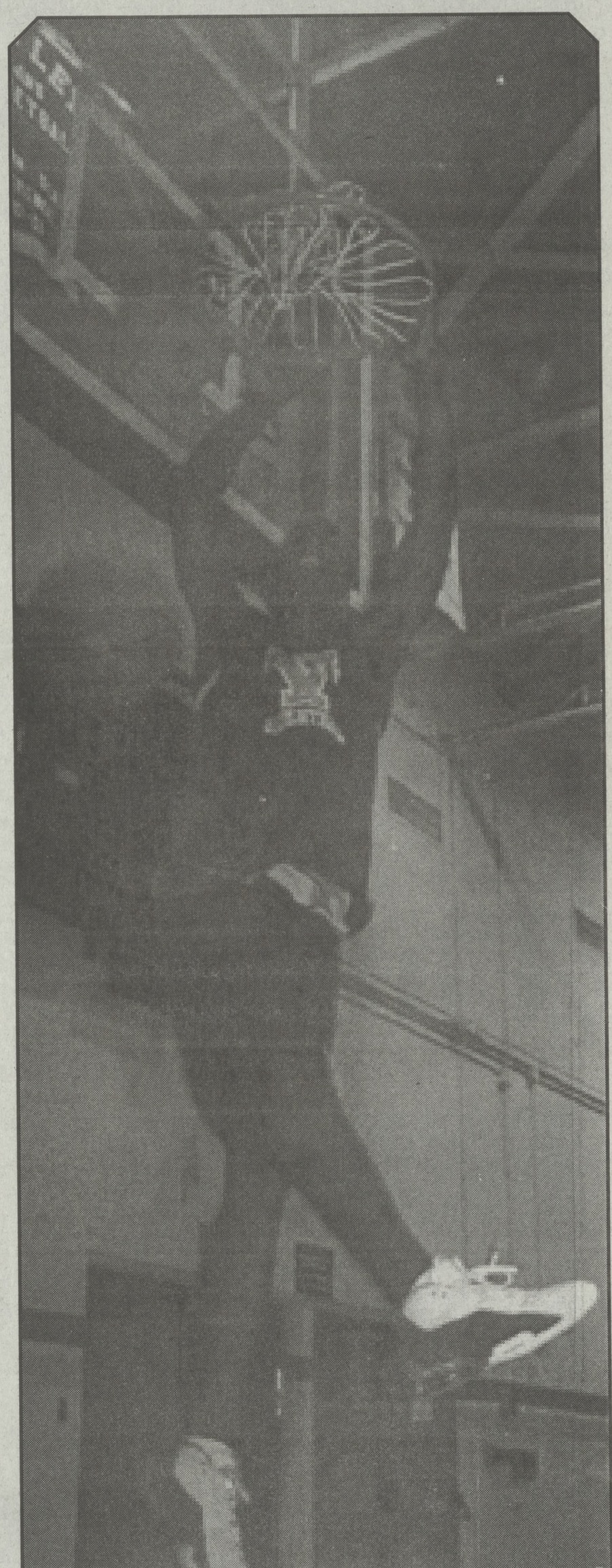
Final Four

1999- 2000

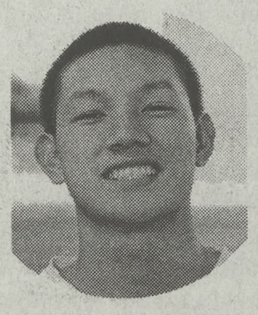
Team

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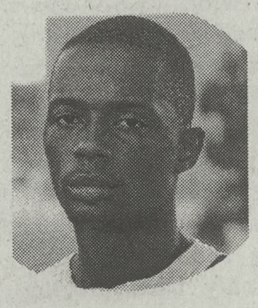


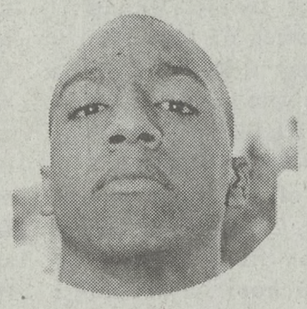


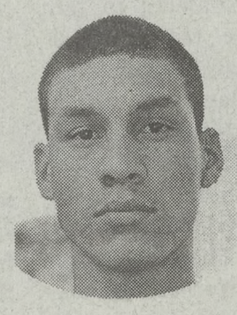
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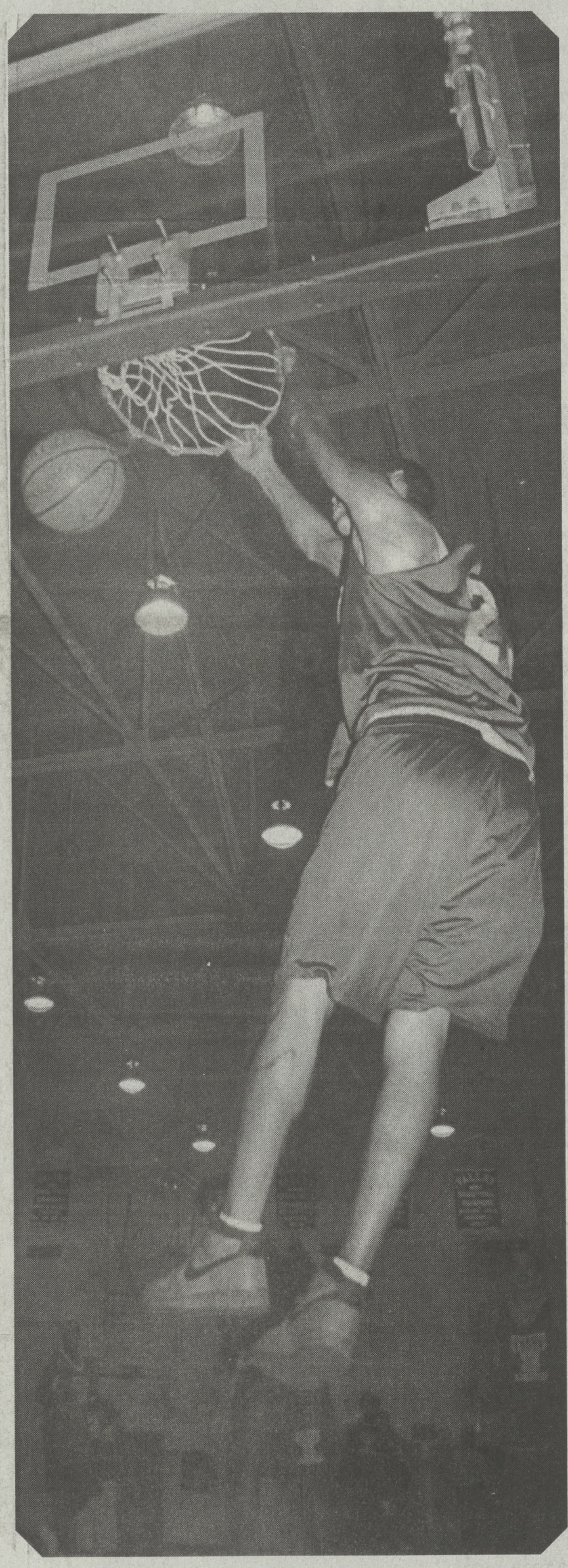
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Captains



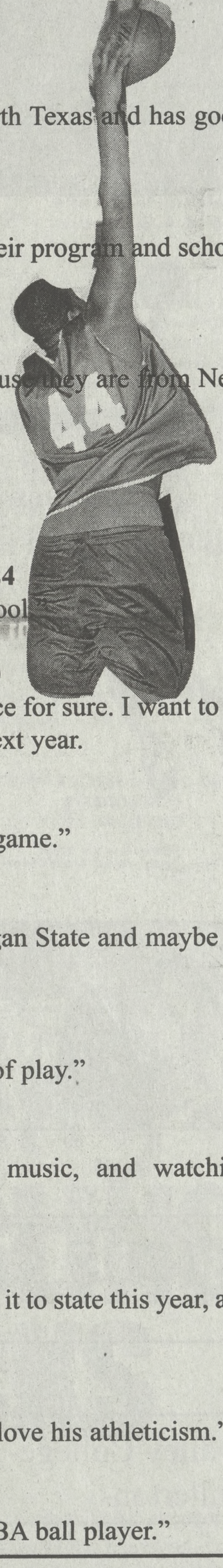
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Men's Roster

1. Rodney Billups, Point Guard #4
"Excited about the season. We played well in the Fullerton showcase and we looked good."

2. Alex Cabagnot, Point Guard #10
"I want to have a great season and win state."



3. James Mitchell, Point Guard #12
"I like California because its faster than Ft. Worth Texas and has good weather."

4. DeMarcus Reid,Wing Man #21
"I would like to play at Oregon because I like their program and school academics."

5. Tony McFadden, Wing Man #22
"I like Stephon Marbury and Lamor Odom because they are from New York, and I'm from New York."

6. Javier Dena, Post Man #23
"I like to go to the movies and party.'

7. Ryan Abrahams, Wing Man #24
"I plan to transfer to CSUN or a Division II school

8. Jordan Walker, Post Man #30
"We have a good team and should win conference for sure. I want to be an All-American this year and go to the NBA next year.

9. Javon Anderson, Wing Man #31
"I enjoy going out to parties and playing video game."

10. Neverson White, Wing Man #32
"I would like to play at Tulsa, UNLV, or Michigan State and maybe go onto the NBA."

11. Midwin Francis, Post Man #33
"My favorite is Tracy Magrady, I like his style of play."

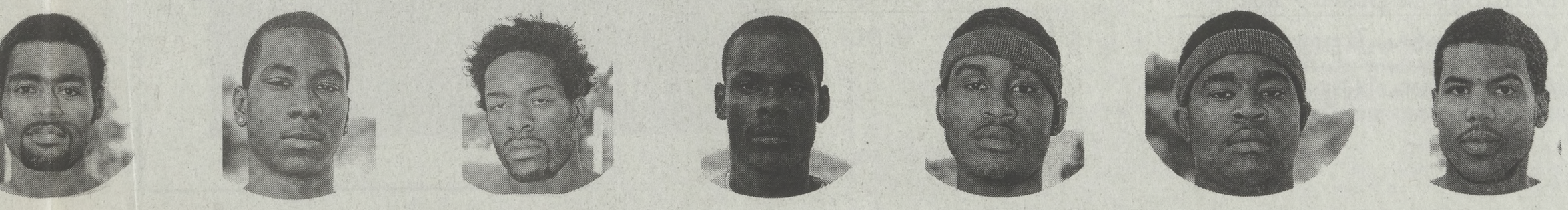
12. Albert Strickland, Post Man #35
"I enjoy playing video games, listening to music, and watching movies."

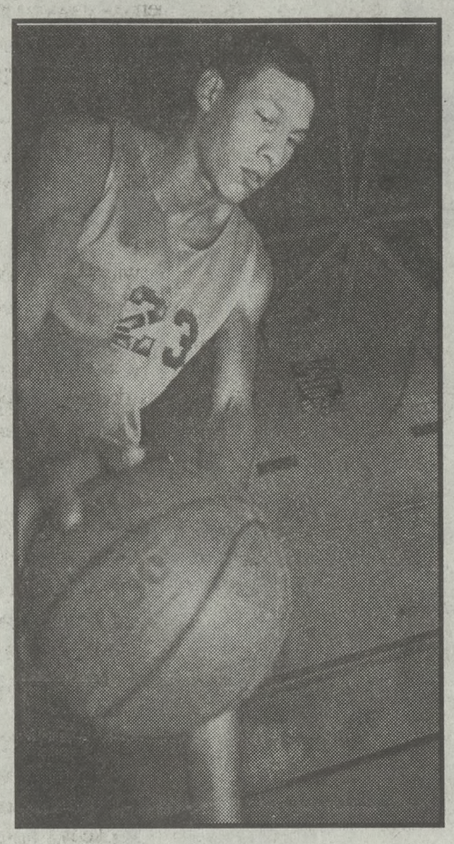
13. Nate Wilson, Post Man #42
"We need a lot of fans to show up. We will make it to state this year, and three-peat in conference."

14. Quishawn Harrel, Post Man #44
"My favorite player is Lamar Odom, because I love his athleticism."

15. Cameron Rowe, Post Man #45
"My dad played at UCLA and was a former NBA ball player."

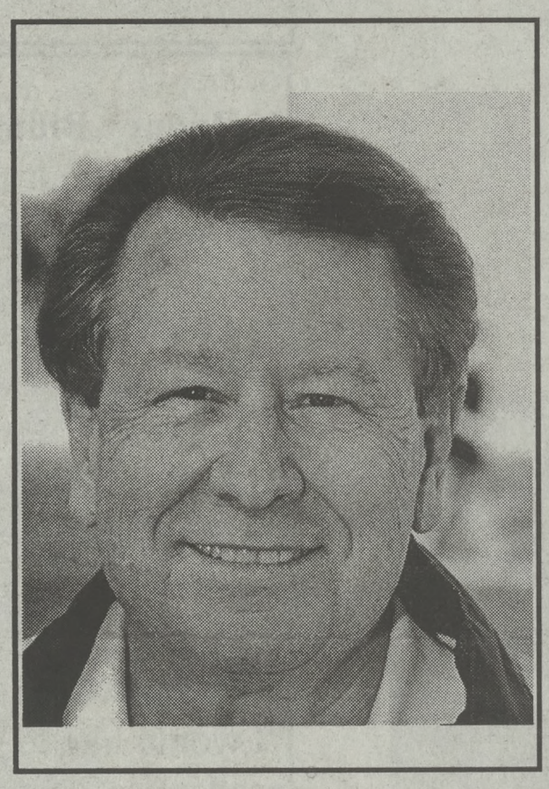
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34 Years and Going

LEVON DAVIS
STAR REPORTER



This year coach Doug Michealson will head the Monarchs basketball team. Going full circle Michelson started at Valley as a basketball player and is now in his 15th year as a Monarchs basketball coach.

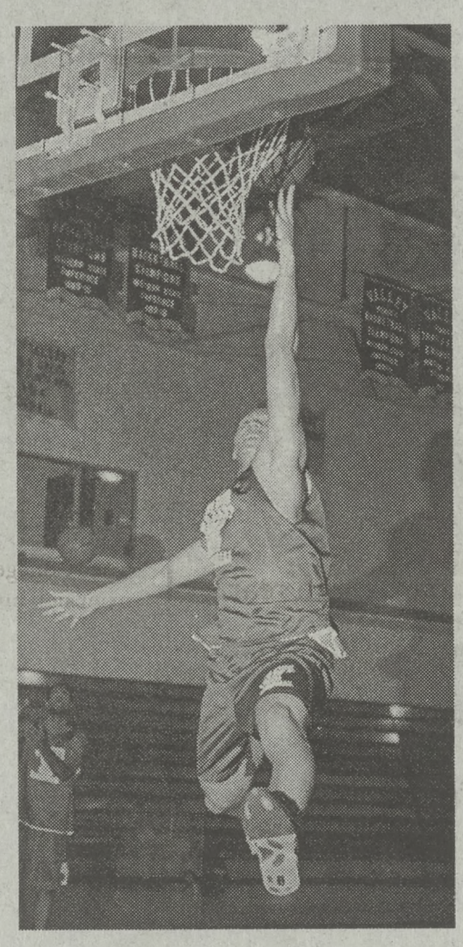
Being a 34-year veteran Michelson has learned how to roll with punches in the ever changing game of basketball. "The name of the game is adapting if you want to be a good coach," Michelson said. Since Valley is only a two-year college, he has had to adjust to new rosters at a rapid pace. Looking at the past few seasons Michelson has control over things. Last season the Monarchs were 10-2 in conference and 23-11 overall records, which gave them a Western State Conference Southern Division Championship.

Having such success makes it easy to stick to one game plan, but Michelson doesn't have one certain game plan. "I have taken a little bit from every coach, from John Wooden, Bob Knight, coaches that I have played for, and clinical speakers," Michelson said when asked about his style of coaching. Using his personal touch, he applies everything that he has learned throughout the years. Michelson doesn't like to handcuff the players on his team, but instead let sthem use their own athletic ability to help create wins.

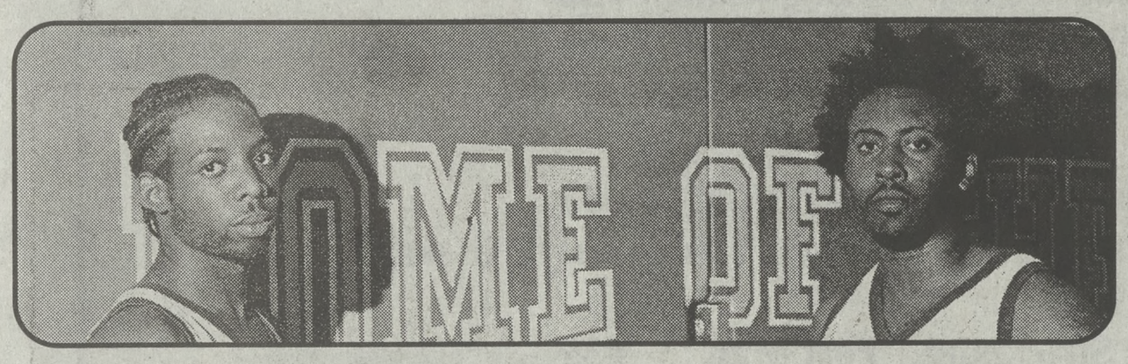
"The name of the game is to adapt"

As a fan of the game, Michelson loved to watch the "old school" Laker squad with Erving "Magic" Johnson, and Kareem, and loves the way those players worked hard. "I like players who lay it on the line every night, and there's a lot of players who do that in the NBA," Michelson said. He likes the way the game is evolving; Michelson feels that the game should turn back into more of a fitness game and not such a physical game that was adopted in the mid 70's.

This season is another where Michelson will have to work hard to get his team the notoriety they deserve. He is looking to have another great season and feels his two-team captains have established leadership roles to make this a strong team. Michelson is looking to have one of the best teams he has had in awhile. On and off the court he feels these guys are a special group and will enjoy the challenges that this season will bring.









Mens Tip Off Tournament

Valley College-	74
Fullerton-	71

Walker- 19 pts 6 reb.
Billups- 2 pts 9 ast.
Cabagnot- 13 pts 5 ast.
Abrahams- 10 pts. 5 reb.

Antelope-	83
Valley College-	77

Abrahams- 23 pts. 5 reb.
Wilson- 19 pts. 10 reb.
Billups- 6 pts. 6 ast.

Mens Conference Schedule

Jan. 9 Citrus @ Valley 7 pm

Jan 12 Glendale @ Glendale 7 pm

Jan 16 West L.A. @ West L.A. 7 pm

Jan 19 Santa Monica @ Valley 7 pm

Jan 23 Bakersfield @ Valley 7 pm

Jan 26 Canyons @ Santa Clarita 7 pm

Feb 2 Citrus @ Azusa 7 pm

Feb 6 Glendale @ Valley 7 pm

Feb 9 West L.A. @ Valley 7 pm

Feb 13 Santa Monica @ Santa Monica 7 pm

Feb 16 Bakersfield @ Bakersfield 7 pm

Feb 20 Canyons @ Valley 7 pm

'Anthrax' continued from page 1

Americans, however, really know what anthrax is? Anthrax is an infectious disease of sheep and cattle transmittable to humans. It was in one of our own laboratories that scientists discovered a way to produce anthrax, which was once thought to be through exposure to animal contact, but now can be transmitted to humans. There are two forms, firstly, the skin form (cutaneous) and the inhaling form (inhalation). Anthrax has already claimed the lives many, one of whom was a hospital worker whose exposure to the bacteria is still under investigation. An article in the Los Angeles Times reported that within the last few years, a dozen people have been infected with one kind of form of anthrax. Are Americans at risk? The truth is, there is a higher probability that the small pox epidemic, if it were to be brought into the United States, would greatly surpass any deaths caused by anthrax. Let us not forget that in 1972, small pox vaccinations came to a halt, whereas anthrax, if infected to the skin would be treatable with one of the antibiotics called Cipro. To bring new light to this situation, The Mayo Clinic, in Rochester, New York, this past Monday announced a new break through in the fight against anthrax. They have created a test that would allow identification in human blood and environmental samples, within 30 minutes. This test has been distributed among hospitals, agencies, and labs all within the United States as of this past week. The fight against anthrax has not stopped with this recent announcement. The U.S. government is not taking any risks but rather doing their part in order to stabilize the anthrax outbreaks and calm the public. Some students are unsure what to think. The flu season is near and because the symptoms are similar to antrax exposure, some are thinking of purchasing Cipro, the antibiotic drug treatment. "Yes, if I had the money, I would buy it," says Isac Tiberias, a part-time student at Valley College. " It has the same symptoms as the flu; I'd want to be safe."

The U.S. government is making sure any businesses, agencies, hospitals, and postal facilities exposed to anthrax are taking the steps to make it safe for people. The government, in preparation will be distributing machines that are specifically designed to stop bacteria from getting on mail to all postal facilities, including offices in the San Fernando Valley. The U.S. Postal Service warns the public and employees to be on the lookout for any unusual mail such as an envelope with no return address or an unfamiliar sender. What started out in Florida has affected American views and created a possible panic. Because there are not enough small pox vaccinations to go around, Americans are more fearful.

For more information on anthrax visit the Web, or library to find out the recent facts and myths concerning anthrax.

'Stehman'

continued from page 1

a practical, creative experience in performance and live readings.

"He will be missed as a colleague, a fellow musician and as an instructor who taught important classes," said Chauncey Maddren, an instructional assistant in the music department. "You don't realize how much somebody did until they're gone."

Funeral services for Stehman are pending.

The music department will host a memorial service for Stehman later in the semester. Contributions can be made to the Dan Stehman Composition Scholarships Fund at (818) 947-2347.

'Smoking' continued from page 1

smokers; [they] don't want to be in a smoky place," Hampel said.

Even though the program has been in existence since September f 2000, it has only 10 active students and five faculty members who are on their roster, but who haven't officially endorsed it yet.

"It's tougher in this campus [to get people involved] because students are very busy with school and work," said Hampel, who holds a master's in public health from CSUN.

They have had more progress at CSUN, the other campus where the program has been implemented.

However, they have also had problems getting support from the administration. "It's tough to get their attention," she said.

The program has already been presented to Vice President of Student Services Yasmin Delahoussaye without any luck. "She's on some other health boards, but we haven't gotten any response from her," Hampel said.

However, the program has found an ally on student trustee Maria Grunwald who has been very supportive and they even want her to be their spokesperson.

They also hope that in January when the program gets re-funded and they are able to hire a Valley College student to do more work on campus, the support network will get stronger making the program stronger as a whole.

Part of their goal is to train program members so that they can organize presentations to clubs or classrooms to inform the students about what the policy consists of, because, they claim, a lot of students don't even know about its existence.

"We want to make it (the policy) clear through classroom presentations or faculty members could present it themselves," Hampel said.

Those presentations would be done once each semester to reach every Valley College student.

"We would like to have non-smokers protected from smoke, students do not want to be in smoky places," Hampel said.

According to Hampel, Kathleen Sullivan from the Disabled Students Program and Services has organized a committee of faculty and administration to look at the policy and find ways to improve it. She was unavailable for comment.

"In the next couple of weeks or months (the) committee will come up with some answers, ways to improve this policy," Hampel said.

However, there are some students who don't think that the decisions should be made by the committee, instead students themselves should decide on issues that affect them directly.

"Leave it up to the masses, if majority of people want to have designated areas, then let's satisfy as many people as possible," said psychology major Cary Green.

Even though he suffers from asthma, he claims that he has never been bothered or irritated by smoke in outdoor areas.

For business major Sindy Mai on the other hand, smoking in non-designated areas on campus it is an issue, "it bothers me that they smoke (in smoke-free areas) when there's a big old sign that anybody can read," she said.

For her T.I.P.S. is a good program that will raise students' awareness.

"It'll help them realize that there's people on campus who don't smoke and have some respect for them."

"This program will work if students participate," she said.

'Bathroom Update'

continued from page 2

is by involvement by the community" but he warns that rather than confronting any one engaged in the act of tagging people should immediately contact campus police, or other law enforcement agencies. Sergeant Bobie said, "photographs are damning pieces of evidence." The College Deputy Sheriff's extension number is 2911.

Campus maintenance staff does a remarkable job in keeping our campus in good running order, but are under-funded for the task of graffiti removal. If we'd like to keep the cost of attending college down, we need to ensure that we don't cause any damage that would necessitate the expenditure of additional money for campus repairs.

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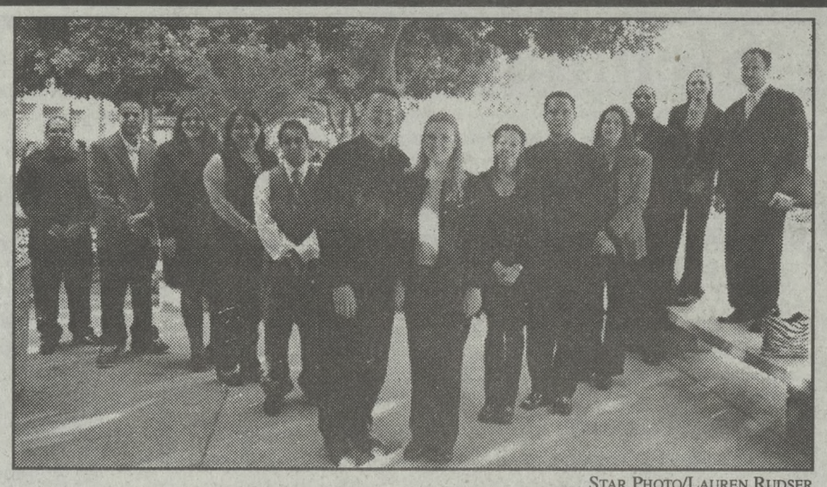
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• Safe, caring, confidential
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'Forensics'

continued from page 1

informative speech category. Bridgette Strong, a novice, placed third with her After Dinner speech. Davie Cabral and Mark Guirguis were finalists in the informative and After Dinner speeches respectively.

The Valley College Forensic Team has been around for thirty years. This semester there are fifty people signed up for the class with fourteen active competitors and two coaches.



STAR PHOTO/LAUREN RUDSER

Valley College forensic team: (from left) Coach Harish Rao, George Iskander, Davie Cobral, Jackie Mccomas, Mark Guirguis, Josh Haley, Reanna Irving, Vanessa Nelson, Jaime Vasquez, Bridgette Strong, Ade Shabiazz, Dawn Ross, and Coach Dwane Smith.

'Reception'

continued from page 1

has been on the President's Honor's List twice and also on the Dean's List for 3 semesters, I am so proud of her achievements, and her ability to continue to focus on her studies."

The faces of the audience told a story of pride and heart felt joy to be present to witness this event of honoring the students in there accomplishments. Angela DeLacy said, "I am so proud of my sister, Tamara Hermen. She is a Liberal Studies major, I am so inspired by her dedication, and I admire her and her accomplishments."

A silent hush came over the audience as the president of the Associated Student Union, Luis Trujillo, announced the president of Valley College, Tyree Wieder. She welcomed all present to honor the students with a message of congratulations on achieving the high standards of academic excellence and to continue their chosen educational and career goals.

Tyrone Cain, a child development major, said: "It's a great unexpected accomplishment. My primary focus was on doing my best regardless of the Dean's List. The child development department played a great part in my ability to achieve high marks to get me to this point. I started in January of 2001 and continued with my studies, thanks to the encouragement of the wonderful staff in this field."

The audience gave a very welcoming response at the announcement of alumni Paul J. Orfalea, the founder of Kinko's Inc. He started out telling of how, as a 9-year-old child he struggled trying to learn to read. He had a learning disability that made it hard to remember the alphabet and learn to read. He said that he finally graduated high school and began attending Valley. For the first time he felt intrigued while at Valley.

Orfalea said, "Community college teachers are the best, and that Valley College gave me my first taste of success and that meant a lot to him." He encouraged the students to continue with their studies and focus on the future. He also stated that community colleges are better than big colleges. He said, "The yellow pages book is the best business success book, because all the businesses in there are a success Wieder, gave Orfalea a baseball cap from the college and a T-shirt, and a pendant to hang in his office. Wieder said to remember Valley College in the years to come.

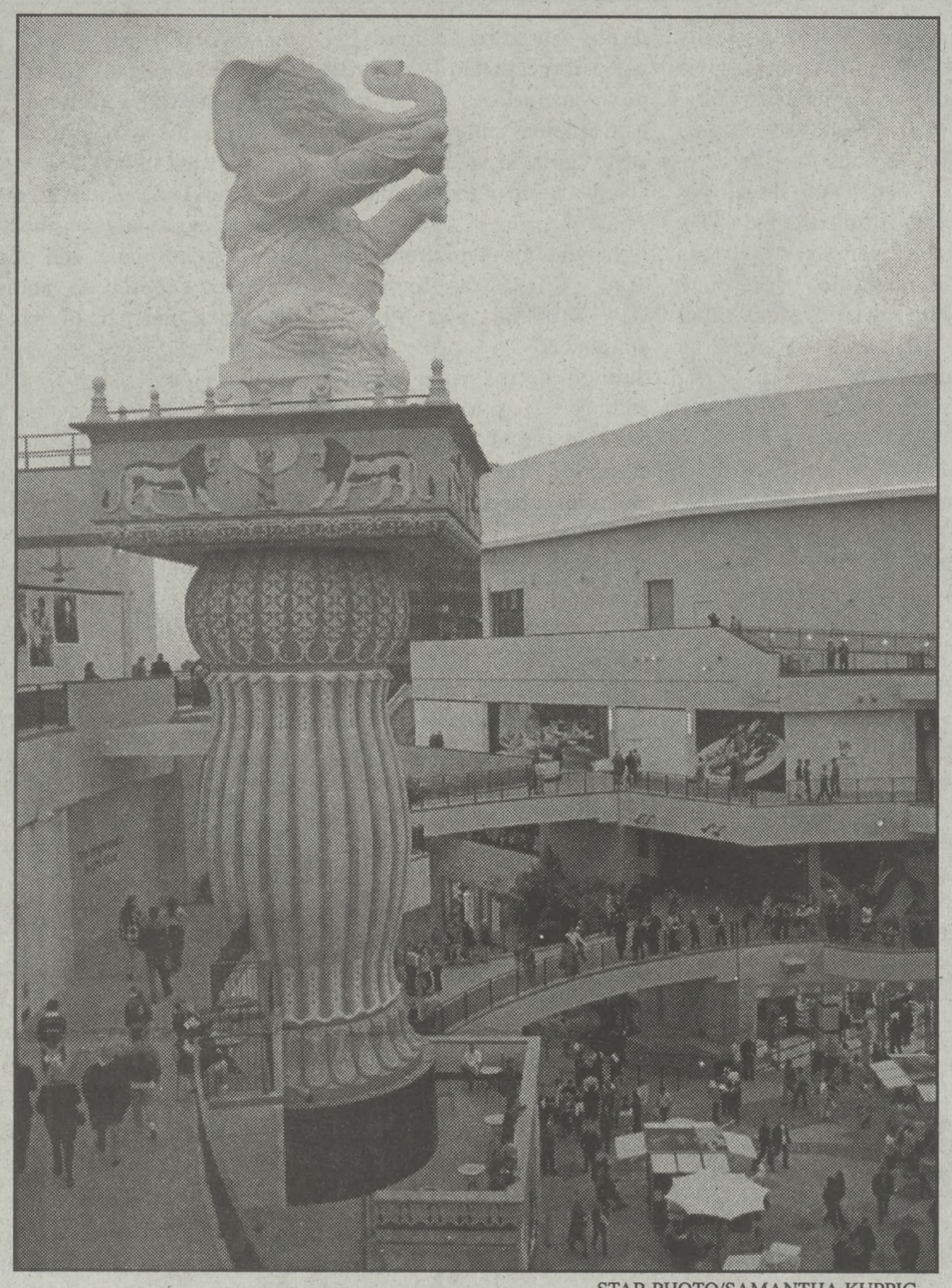
Next, the Georg Freese Trio played very lively jazz pieces. Then the student's names were announced, and they strolled up to the center stage to shake hands with Wieder and shake the hand of Orfalea.

The students were given a pin of the Valley logo. Professor George Potsic said, "I enjoyed the presentation, and I always feel positive about education of our students, when they are honored for their achievements."

The closing remarks were by Victor Zaytsev, President of Tau Alpha Epsilon. He gave the last announcement of the afternoon, which was to thank the clubs that help put together the Dean's Reception, and a loud applause to the students being honored.

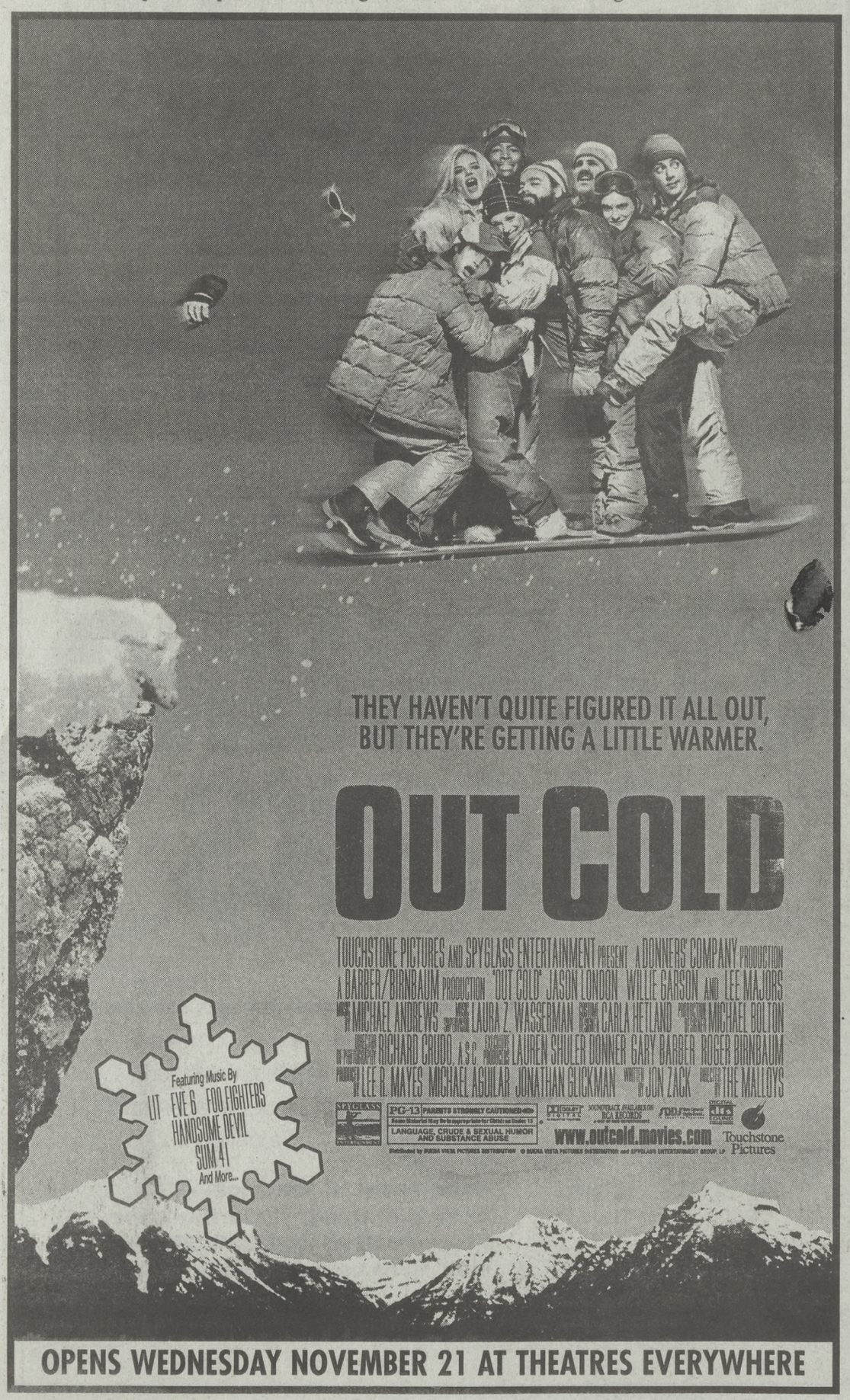
Economics major Edward Miquel, said, "I have been on both the Dean's List and the President's Honors List since 1999. I am impressed with the high level of professors at Valley College that take the time to make sure the students focus and continue to achieve their goals."

Long Awaited Opening



STAR PHOTO/SAMANTHA KUPPIG

The long awaited shopping center on Hollywood and Highland in Hollywood opened this past weekend. It is home to upscale stores such as Sephora and MAC as well as novelty stores like Killer B's and Hot Topic. There are a hose of restaurants like CPK and Johnny Rockets.





Gallery

ZACATECAS, A PAST WITH HISTORY



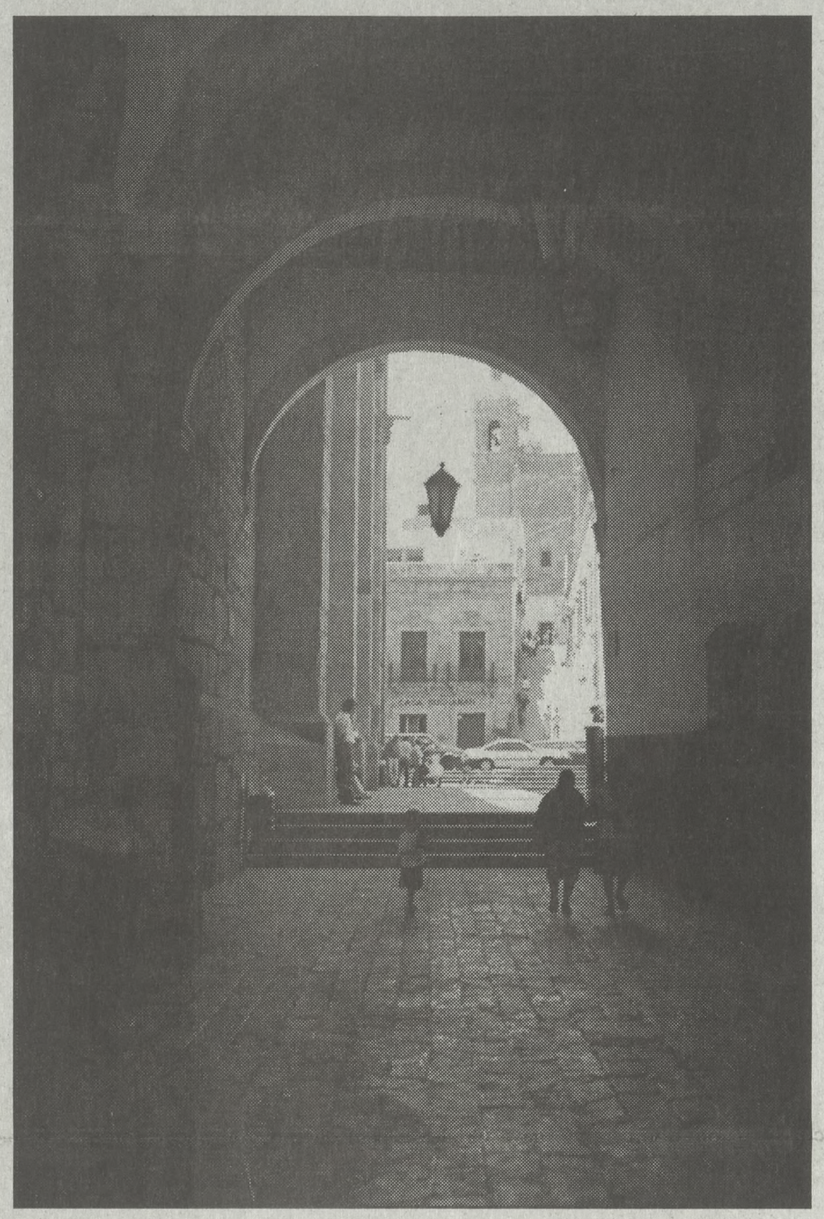
Zacatecas is a beautiful city located on the north of the Mexican Republic.This city has a very rich history and culture. In 1994, it was proclaimed a "Humanity Cultural Patrimony".

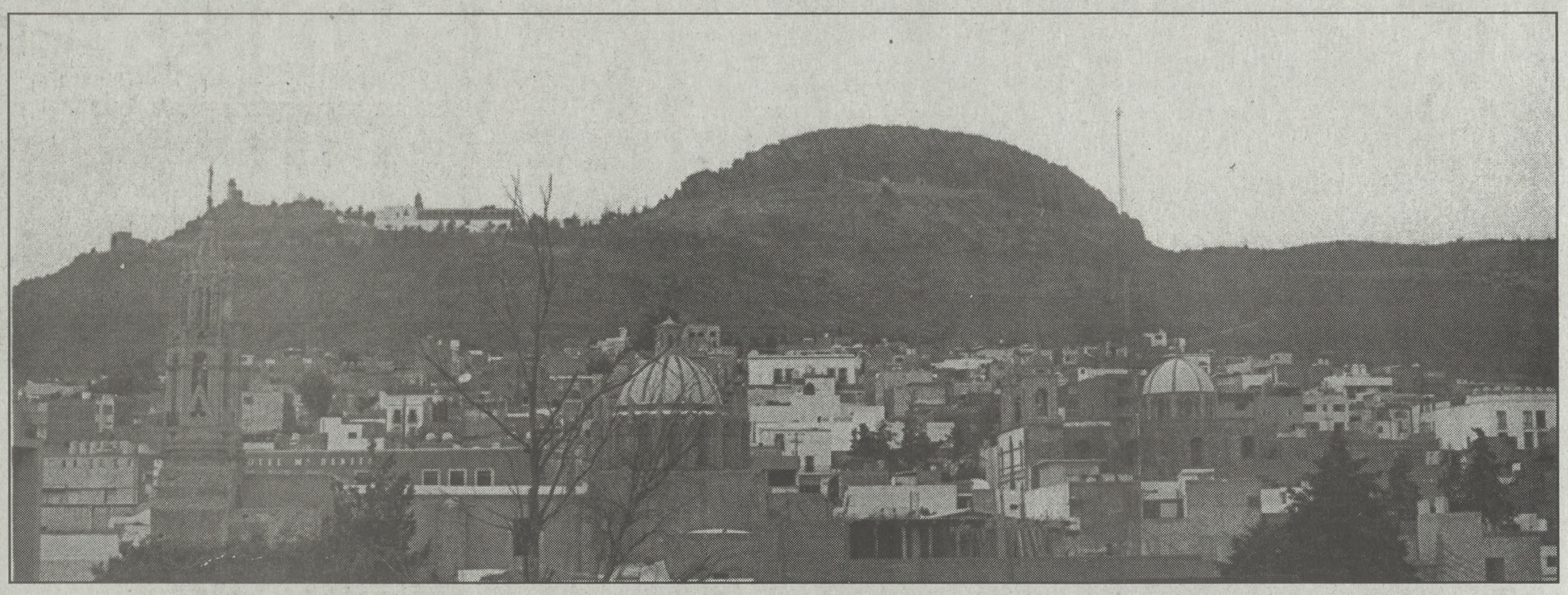
A good place to visit and forget about the hastiness that a big has.

Zacatecas es una bella ciudad localizada al norte de la Republica Mexicana. Una ciudad rica en historia y en cultura. En 1994, fue proclamada "Patrimonio Cultural De La Humanidad".

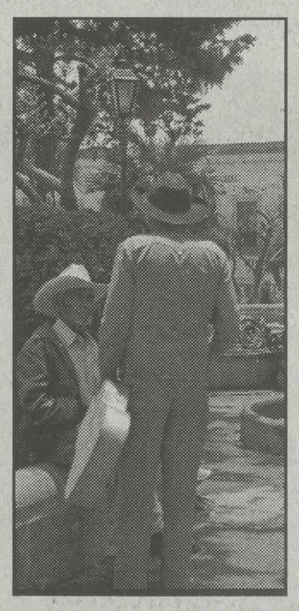
Un buen lugar para visitar y olvidarse de las presiones de la gran ciudad.

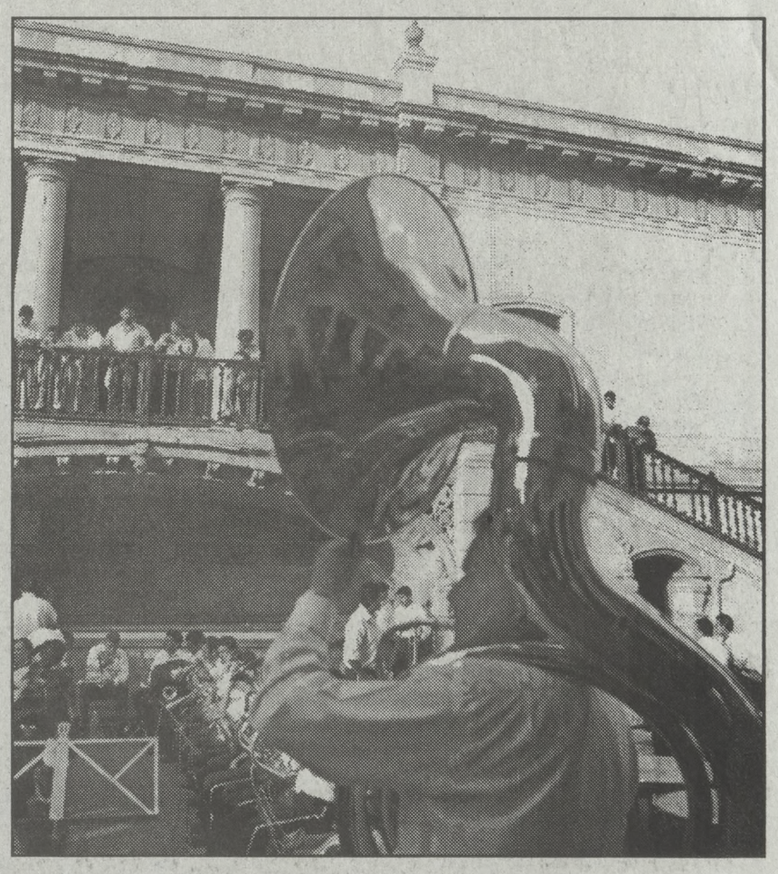
Star photos and text by Jorge Gallegos.











Sports

Whose Home Is It Anyway?



STAR PHOTO/ JORGE GALLEGOS

The Monarchs celebrate a touchdown against Ventura at the 2001 homecoming game.

BY PEDRO OLIVERA
STAR REPORTER

It was not a sweet homecoming for the Valley Monarchs' football team as they suffered a very difficult loss on Nov. 3 at the hands of Ventura College 43-29. The loss hampered what should have been a more festive mood as the Monarchs were hosting Ventura in the annual homecoming game.

The Monarchs played them tough early, scoring the first touchdown of the game, on a one-yard run by quarterback Zach Wasserman. The score came with 6:17 left in the first quarter. Ventura answered back four minutes later with their quarterback Chad Metlak throwing his first of six touchdown passes in the game.

The Monarchs then went on to score ten unanswered points to close out the first half. First they got a 29-yard field goal from kicker Geoff Marcus. Then Wasserman scored his second one-yard touchdown run of the game with 51 seconds remaining to give the Monarchs a 16-7 half-time lead.

In the second half, it looked as though the Monarchs were going to pull out the victory. After Metlak passed for his second touchdown to cut the lead to 16-13, the Monarchs scored another 10 consecutive points. Marcus kicked his second field goal of the game, from 28-yards out. Then linebacker Bruce West recovered a fumble and returned it 43-yards for the touchdown. The Monarchs were in good position to claim their first victory since Sep. 29. They held a 26-13 lead late in the third quarter and appeared to be well on their way.

Just when things looked good for the Monarchs, the momentum rapidly switched. Ventura scored 22 unanswered points, beginning with Metlak's third touchdown pass, a 46-yard pass with 2:59 left in the third quarter.

The fourth quarter solely belonged to Ventura as Metlak threw his fourth touchdown pass just 28 seconds into quarter. Ventura scored on a 26-yard field goal to extend their lead to 30-26. Then Matlak set a Ventura College record for touchdown passes in a game when he connected on his fifth scoring pass with 4:45 left to play in the game. The Monarchs finally responded with 1:29 left in the fourth quarter, with Marcus hitting a 37-yard field goal to give him three for the game.

Despite the onslaught by Ventura, the field goal brought the Monarchs to within seven 36-29. Unfortunately there was no time left to do anything about it. Ventura took possession of the ball and the game. Matlak increased his record performance by throwing his sixth and final touchdown with 24 seconds left in the game. That brought his final stats to 18-27 passing for 321 yards and six touchdowns.

Although the loss was another heartbreaker, not everything was a negative. Wasserman had probably his best game of the season, going 19-37 for 241 yards. Receiver Efren Lopez had undoubtedly his best game, catching nine passes for 132 yards. Return specialist James Norris had another outstanding game. He accumulated 200 combined yards in punt and kick returns.

Not Settling for Par



BY LE'VON DAVIS
SPORTS EDITOR

These past years people have been on PGA player Tiger Woods back, wondering why he played under everyone's expectation. What should we expect, he has been the best golfer in the league for the last several years.

In his 2000 campaign Woods went on a rampage winning 9 tournaments, four-second place tournaments,and three of the nine first place tournament were major championships, tying the record of Ben Hogan set in 1953. Keep in mind, he only entered 20 events. That's after a 1999 season where he won eight tournaments, and didn't miss a cut all year long. Those two years combined he earned more than 15 milionl dollars. To follow those two seasons with another one like those would be not only expected but also demanded.

Woods has added on to a list of awards that has is far more accomplished than any other PGA player around. In 1999 at the age of 23, he was only the second golfer winning the Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year. (For the first time of three). He won the Byron Nelson Award, Vardon Trophy, and he has won the Arnold Palmer award three times and the Mark H. McCormack award for being the number one ranked golfer in the world.

Woods had an average season but still managed to be at the top of the leader board when it came down to the end of the year. The 2001 season was filled with questions of his average play, but winning five tournaments is anything but average. It has been morer 10 years since someone one five tournament in a year besides Tiger Woods.

To say that Woods had a sub par season would be unfair. He made more than 5 milion dollars, made all his cuts out of 19 tournaments and is leading the PGA in scoring average and consecutive cuts. For Woods tgus year has been a year of media hype and to much attention. He didn't meet up to everyone standards but maintained the respect of golf pro's around the world.

At the age of 25 Woods has accomplished things that are far from being average. Golf is a game that is hard to master, and Woods is the one person that has ever come close. You can't expect him to play perfect, but he will always well above par..

On the field

Cross Country

Nov 17 State Finals @ Fresno 10 am

Football

Nov 17 - Citrus @Valley 7 pm

Mens Basketball

Nov 14-17 - Fullerton Classic @ Fullerton

TBA

Nov 21 - East L.A. @ Valley 7 pm

Nov 27 - Oxnard @ Oxnard

Womens Basketball

Nov 15-17 - Merced Classic @ Merced TBA

Nov 27 - L.A. Pierce @ Valley 7 pm

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WSUP

What would help improve attendance for the mens and womens basketball teams?



Edwin Crockett, age 19

"They should have music that people enjoy listening to at the basketball games."

Jasmine Rivera, age 18

"We need to hype up the team during school hours, they should handout flyers and season schedule to everyone:



STAR PHOTO/LAUREN RUDSER